

U.S. Department of Transportation

Research and **Special Programs Administration**

400 Seventh Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20590

REPR-98-3850-20

JUL 3 2000

Mr. Terry Moran US Sea Launch Company 2700 Nimitz Road Long Beach, CA 20802

Dear Mr. Moran:

Your letter of May 26, 2000 and supplemental letter dated June 16, 2000 submitted in accordance with exemption DOT-E 12068 contains information on payload tanks containing methylhydrazine, 6.1, UN1244, PG I, hazard zone A and dinitrogen tetroxide, 2.3, UN1067, hazard zone A. hazardous materials in the payload include ammonia, anhydrous 2.3, UN1005, hazard zone D; articles, explosive, n.o.s. 1.4S, UN0349, PG II; potassium hydroxide, solution, 8, UN1814; and xenon, compressed, 2.2, UN2036. The next launch is scheduled for July 23, 2000.

The specific payload configuration described in this submittal has been reviewed and is acceptable for transportation in commerce in accordance with the terms and conditions of DOT-E 12068. A copy of this letter must be maintained on file with the exemption while an integrated launch system with a payload of this configuration is in transportation.

The expiration date of DOT-E 12068 (second revision) is June 30, 2000; however, because your application for renewal was made on April 28, 2000, the exemption will not expire until final administrative action of the application for renewal has been taken.

Please be advised that in order to complete action on the renewal request, we are waiting for additional information concerning the types and quantities of hazardous materials that are expected in the various payload configurations.

Sincerely,

Robert A. McGuire

Acting Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety

cc: Richard P. Schweitzer